

REMARKS

This Amendment is fully responsive to the non-final Office Action dated April 15, 2010, issued in connection with the above-identified application. Claims 3, 5 and 6 are pending in the present application. With this Amendment, claim 3 has been amended. No new matter has been introduced by the amendments made to the claims. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claim 3 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bosman et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,254,892, hereafter “Bosman”) in view of Soya (Japanese Publication No. JP 05207725, hereafter “Soya”), Ineson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,334,897, hereafter “Ineson”) and Ueno et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,170,275, hereafter “Ueno”).

The Applicants have amended independent claim 3 to more clearly distinguish the present invention from the cited prior art. Independent claim 3 (as amended) recites *inter alia* the following features:

“...the terminal is located outside a bobbin in an axial direction of the bobbin on which said coil in said stator is wound, and the terminal extends from an inner peripheral side of the bobbin along and parallel to an end surface of the bobbin, the end surface being an end of the bobbin in the axial direction, and the portion on the distal end side of the connector pin which is arranged in said connector body is provided so as to extend to an outer periphery side of the bobbin along and parallel to the end surface of the bobbin.”(Emphasis added).

The features noted above in independent claim 3 are fully supported by the Applicants’ disclosure (see e.g., Fig. 1, elements 21, 22, 52, 52a; and ¶ [0029]).

In the Office Action, the Examiner relies on Bosman, Soya, Ineson and Ueno for disclosing or suggesting all the features recited in independent claim 3. However, the Examiner relies on Ueno for disclosing the claimed terminal and connector pin of the present invention (as recited in independent claim 3). However, the Applicants assert that Ueno fails to disclose or suggest all the features of the terminal and connector pin now recited in independent claim 3, as amended.

First, independent claim 3 (as amended) recites that *“the terminal is located outside a bobbin in an axial direction of the bobbin on which said coil in said stator is wound.”*

In the Office Action, the Examiner relies on Fig. 1 of Ueno. In relying of Ueno in the Office Action, the Examiner includes the figure noted below.

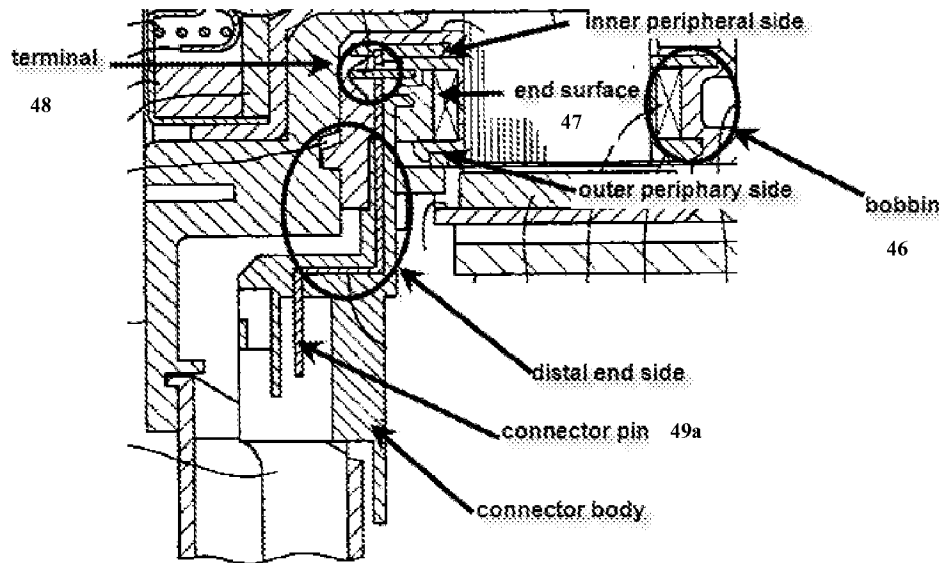


Fig. 1 of Ueno

Referring to Fig. 1 of Ueno noted above, the terminal 48 appears to be located inside the bobbin 46, not *outside the bobbin in an axial direction*. In fact, the terminal 48 is more accurately positioned integrally with the bobbin in a radial direction such that the terminal 48 is formed as a unitary structure with the bobbin 46. Thus, the terminal 48 disclosed in Fig. 1 of Ueno cannot be located outside the bobbin 46 in an axial direction of the bobbin 46, as in independent claim 3.

Second, independent claim 3 (as amended) recites that *“the terminal extends from an inner peripheral side of the bobbin along and parallel to an end surface of the bobbin, the end surface being an end of the bobbin in the axial direction.”*

In Fig. 1 of Ueno noted above, the Examiner indicates that the outer diameter of the stator coil 47 is equivalent to the claimed *end surface of the bobbin*. However, the outer diameter of the stator coil 47 is clearly perpendicular to the terminal 48 (i.e., the circled portion of terminal 48 in Fig. 1 of Ueno). Thus, the terminal 48 disclosed in Ueno cannot extend from an inner peripheral side of the bobbin *“along and parallel to an end surface of the bobbin,”* as in independent claim 3.

Third, independent claim 3 (as amended) recites that *“the portion on the distal end side of the connector pin which is arranged in said connector body is provided so as to extend to an outer periphery side of the bobbin along and parallel to the end surface of the bobbin.”*

The terminal 48 and connector pin 49a of Ueno are two different elements, and terminal 48 is perpendicular to the connector pin 49a as illustrated in Fig. 1 of Ueno. Conversely, in the motor of the present invention, the terminal and the connector pin are formed from a single element such that a portion on the distal end side of the connector pin extends to an outer periphery side of the bobbin and *is parallel to the end surface of the bobbin*.

Therefore, in the present invention (as recited in independent claim 3) the distal end of the connector pin and the terminal are both *along and parallel to the end surface of the bobbin*. This configuration is not possible with the motor disclosed in Ueno because as illustrated in Fig. 1 above, the terminal 48 is a separate element that is perpendicular to the distal end of the connector pin 49a. The Applicants have also attached a “Sketch A” which shows a side-by-side comparison between the motor of the present invention and the motor in Ueno.

Finally, the terminal of the present invention can be used for binding directly to a coil without the need for additional elements like the terminal 48 in Fig. 1 of Ueno, which reduces the parts of the motor and production costs. No such features or advantages are provided by the motor disclosed in Ueno.

As noted above, Bosman, Soya and Ineson were not relied on for disclosing or suggesting the features of the terminal and connector pin recited in independent claim 3. Accordingly, given the deficiencies noted above in Ueno, no combination of Bosman, Soya, Ineson and Ueno would result in, or otherwise render obvious, independent claim 3 (as amended).

In the Office Action, claim 5 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bosman in view of Soya, Ineson and Ueno, and further in view of Ineson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,455,973, hereafter “Ineson II”); and claim 6 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bosman in view of Soya, Ineson and Ueno, and further in view of Chol (U.S. Patent No. 7,406,747, hereafter “Chol”).

Claims 5 and 6 depend from independent claim 3. As noted above, Bosman, Soya, Ineson and Ueno fail to disclose or suggest all the features recited in independent claim 3 (as amended). Moreover, Ineson II and Chol fail to overcome the deficiencies noted above in Bosman, Soya, Ineson and Ueno. Accordingly, no combination of Bosman, Soya, Ineson and Ueno with Ineson II or Chol would result in, or otherwise render obvious, claims 5 and 6 at least by virtue of their dependencies from independent claim 3.

In light of the above, the Applicants submit that all the pending claims are patentable over the prior art of record. The Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections presented in the outstanding Office Action, and pass the present application to issue. Additionally, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone to resolve any remaining issues in the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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